

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/599,473

Applicant(s)

HASHIZUME ET AL.

Examiner

Charanjit S. Aulakh

Art Unit

1625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/29/06

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/20/07

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____.

C. S. Aulakh
CHARANJIT S. AULAKH, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. According to a preliminary amendment filed on Sep. 29, 2006, the applicants have canceled claims 13-15 and furthermore, have amended claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 16 and 18.
2. Claims 1-2 and 16-18 are now pending in the application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. The following amendment is pursuant to a telephone conversation with the applicant's attorney, Mr. Frank Forman on Nov. 20, 2007. The following changes have been made in the specification and claims:

Insert the enclosed abstract on a separate page at the end of specification which is copied from the corresponding WO application.

Cancel claims 16-18 without prejudice.

In claim 1, first page, last line, replace --- ahving ----with -----having ---- to correct a typo.

In claim 1, last line, after 2, insert a period (.).

In claim 5, page 6, insert -- , --- after each of the first 10 heterocyclic rings ; insert --- or - -- between the last two heterocyclic rings and furthermore, insert a period (.) after the last heterocyclic ring.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-12 are allowed since the instant compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutical compositions containing these compounds are neither disclosed nor obvious over the

prior art. In the art, Hashizume (U.S. Patent 7,279,486) discloses Alpha aryl or heteroaryl methyl beta piperidine propanoic acid compounds as ORL1-receptor antagonists (see compounds of formula I in column 2, lines 47-67 as well as exemplified compounds) which are closely related to the instant compounds. However, the compounds of Hashizume differ from the instant compounds in having -OH group instead of -NR₃R₄ group attached to the -C(O) group and furthermore, there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art to modify the compounds of Hashizume to prepare the instant compounds.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

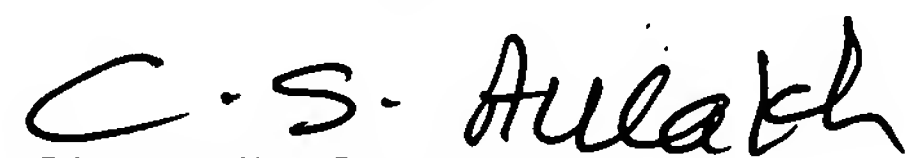
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charanjit S. Aulakh whose telephone number is (571)272-0678. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Janet Andres can be reached on (571)272-0867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Charanjit S. Aulakh
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1625